Brett Olin Janell Williams Special Assistant Attorneys General 2 Special Deputy Lincoln County Attorneys 840 Helena Avenue Helena, MT 59602 Marcia Boris

Lincoln County Attorney 512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923

Attorneys for Plaintiff



STATE OF MONTANA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

Kip Hartman. DOB: 6/28/1984

Defendant.

MATTHEW J. CUFFE **District Judge**

Cause No. DC-19-75

AMENDED INFORMATION

Janell Williams, Special Deputy Lincoln County Attorney for the State of Montana, charges that on or about January 1, 2015, through May 1, 2019, at Lincoln County, Montana, the above-named Defendant committed the offenses

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COUNT I

Conducting Insurance Transactions without a License (common scheme), a Felony, in violation of § 33-1-1509(1), M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that on or about January 1, 2015, through May 1, 2019, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant sold insurance products without a license to more than one person without being licensed to do so. Specifically, the persons went to the Defendant for tax and/or financial advice. When the Defendant learned of their financial status, he placed them in fixed annuity products, which are legally an insurance product. He lacked a license to do this, and had his wife, who is licensed in Montana, sign the paperwork. The identified victims never met his wife, and the ones who had had minimal contact with her.

Conviction for the offense of **Conducting Insurance Transactions** without a License, a Felony, is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for a term not to exceed 10 years or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, or both.

COUNT II

Transacting Business as an Investment Advisor without a License (common scheme), a Felony, in violation of § 30-10-201(3), M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that on or about January 1, 2015, through May 1, 2019, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant reviewed the victims' investment portfolios and encouraged them to sell those portfolios and place them in a fixed annuity product. The Defendant, through his wife who signed on

AMENDED INFORMATION

to the fixed annuity products since he was not licensed, then received compensation in the form of commissions from the companies writing the business.

Conviction for the offense of Transacting Business as an Investment Advisor without a License, a Felony, is punishable by imprisonment in the Montana state prison for a term not to exceed 10 years, or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, or both.

COUNT III

Securities Fraud (common scheme), a Felony, in violation of § 30-10-301(1)(a), M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that on or about January 1, 2015, through May 1, 2019, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant failed to disclose that he was not licensed to give advice regarding securities products, nor that he lacked a license to sell insurance products. The failure of the Defendant to disclose this information acted as a fraud or deceit upon the victims.

Conviction for the offense of **Securities Fraud**, a Felony, is punishable by imprisonment in the Montana State Prison for a term not to exceed 10 years or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, or both.

COUNT IV

Exploitation of an Older Person, a Felony, in violation of § 45-6-333(1), M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that on or about January 1, 2015, through May 1, 2019, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant purposely and knowingly obtained an older person's funds while standing in a position of trust or confidence with the person. Specifically, the Defendant established a trust relationship with a person over 65 years and obtained almost \$900,000 having gained this trust. He also obtained funds after being appointed her power of attorney which were not commiserate with the work performed because she trusted him.

Conviction for the offense of **Exploitation of an Older Person**, a Felony, is punishable by imprisonment in the Montana State Prison for a term not to exceed 10 years or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, or both.

COUNT V

Exploitation of an Older Person, a Felony, in violation of § 45-6-333(1), M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that on or about December 1, 2015, through March 26, 2018, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant purposely and knowingly obtained an older person's funds while standing in a position of trust or confidence with the person. Specifically, the Defendant established a trust relationship with a second person over 65 years and obtained over \$120,000 having gained this trust.

Conviction for the offense of Exploitation of an Older Person, a Felony, is punishable by imprisonment in the Montana State Prison for a term not to exceed 10 years or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, or both.

COUNT VI

Tampering with Witnesses and Informants, a Felony, in violation of § 45-7-206, M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that in May 2019, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant purposely and knowingly attempted to induce or otherwise cause a witness to testify or inform falsely while believing that an official proceeding or investigation was pending or about to be instituted. Specifically, the Defendant spoke with one of the State's witnesses and told her that if anyone called her about the annuities to tell them "you do business with [the Defendant's wife]". The Defendant knew an investigation and official proceeding were pending as this occurred after this Court issued a TRO in the instant case and was aware of the investigation from communications with the CSI.

Conviction for the offense of Tampering with Witnesses and Informants, a Felony, is punishable by imprisonment in the Montana State Prison for a term not to exceed 10 years or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, or both.

COUNT VII

Deceptive Practices, a Felony, in violation of § 45-6-317(1)(b), M.C.A.

The facts of the offense are that in July 2015, at Lincoln County, Montana, the Defendant purposely and knowingly made false or deceptive statements to a person for the purpose of promoting or procuring the sale of property or services.

Specifically, the Defendant purposely and knowingly made false or deceptive

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Jeannie Keller 18

as follows:

Lynne Egan

H.M., T.C., S.K., R.P., S.R., C.M., J.M., G.O., and any other Montana resident 19 Annuity Purchasers on products produced by Ginny Hartman (the undersigned 20

attract her to the business.

has produced this list to opposing counsel) L.B.

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22 W.H.

K.P. 24

Any witness needed for rebuttal, impeachment, chain of custody, or foundation 25 purposes; 26

statements to a person regarding her existing investments to convince her to sell

Conviction for the offense of Deceptive Practices, a Felony, is punishable

A list of possible witnesses for the State now known to the prosecution is

them and instead purchase annuities from the Defendant. Moreover, he used

by imprisonment in the Montana State Prison for a term not to exceed 10 years

or a fine in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, or both.

documents which included false information about his business practices to

Any witness listed by Defendant.

DATED this 9th day of September, 2019.

Janell Williams Special Deputy Lincoln County Attorney

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was served on September 9, 2019, via email and first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Shandor S. Badaruddin MORIARITY & BADARUDDIN, PLLC 73 6 South Third Street West Missoula, Montana 59801-2514 Email: shandor@emsblaw.com

Attorney for Defendant

Janell Williams